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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY East Germany/Poland/China

SUBJECT Manufacture of A-1 Aerial Gunnery Training
Devices at Zeiss Jena.

NO. OF PAGES 2

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1. VEB Carl Zeiss, Jena, has completed delivery of the 1952 order for 79 A-1 aerial gunnery training devices to the Russians, but the last one (number 79) was retained at Zeiss for further development; it is to serve as a model for the 1953 contract. Of the units delivered to the Russians, five (numbers 74-78) were delivered to [redacted] Strausberg, east of Berlin. Number 79 is not to be altered functionally but it to be improved structurally as far as possible, i.e. by the substitution of better materials throughout wherever possible. 1/
2. In addition to the 135 A-1 devices to be delivered by Zeiss to the USSR in 1953, 30 sets of spare parts are also to be delivered as follows:
 - a) 8 each for the 1953 series, and
 - b) 22 each for the 1952 series
3. Although D.S. Radmirov of the Soviet Trade Delegation in Berlin at first has insisted that A-1 device number 79 be test-run at Zeiss for 1,000 hours, he has since agreed that a 500 hour test will be sufficient. This was agreed upon at a meeting between Zeiss representatives and Radmirov and one other unidentified Soviet official from the Russian Trade Delegation during the week of 5 January 1953.
4. Present opinion at Zeiss is that there will be no deliveries of the A-2 device in 1953, although it is possible that a model will be constructed.
5. The Russians have still not agreed to permit China and Poland to place orders for A-1 devices with Zeiss, although both countries have expressed interest in doing so. In any case, Zeiss would not be able to make delivery of any sets to these countries because capacity is at present only sufficient to fill the order for 135 for the USSR.

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6. Zeiss has submitted various bids to the Soviet Reparations authorities for reparations contracts in 1953. On ~~the~~ such contract has been signed with Zeiss for a total of 206,000 DME worth of precision measuring instruments to be used in technical laboratories concerned with machine tool construction. The SCC is further demanding delivery from Zeiss of an order for miscellaneous instruments of various kinds in the amount of 1,200,000 DME destined for Poland. This order is to include medical instruments, e.g. the Pantofoss (sic). The order has not yet been signed. It is thought at Zeiss that there will in fact be no direct reparations deliveries to Poland in 1953, but that the USSR will re-export to Poland part of the goods it receives as reparations from the DDR.
7. Discussions were held on 16 January 1953 between Zeiss representatives and (fnu) Diebenkorn, Chief of the Optical Section of DIA-Feinmechanik-Optik, regarding details of orders for large amounts of instruments, including surveying instruments, wanted by China. At present, Zeiss is delivering far more instruments to China than to Poland.

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